

Please add the following new claims.

81. (Added) A multilayered thermoplastic film, comprising:
a thermoplastic core layer having a first side and a second side, the core layer comprising:
(a) a polyolefin having a density in the range of about 0.89 to about 0.97 grams per cubic centimeter; and
(b) from about 2% to about 25% by weight of a second polymeric material selected from ionomers derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymer;
at least one abrasion resistant first thermoplastic skin layer overlying the first side of the core layer; and
at least one second thermoplastic skin layer overlying the second side of the core layer,
wherein the composition of the core layer is different from the composition of the skin layers, and the core layer and the skin layers are characterized by the absence of PVC.

82. (Added) The film of claim 81, wherein the core comprises from about 2% to about 10% by weight of the second polymeric material.

83. (Added) The film of claim 81, wherein the core layer further comprises:

(c) from about 1% to about 45% by weight of a third polymeric material selected from ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, acid modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, anhydride modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, acrylate modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, anhydride modified polyolefins, acid modified ethylene acrylate polymers and anhydride modified ethylene acrylate polymers.

84. (Added) The film of claim 83, wherein the core comprises from about 20% to about 40% by weight of the third polymeric material.

85. (Added) The film of claim 81, further comprising a clear topcoat layer which overlies the first thermoplastic skin layer, wherein the clear topcoat layer is characterized by the absence of PVC.

86. (Added) The film of claim 81, wherein at least one layer of a pressure sensitive adhesive overlies the second thermoplastic skin layer.

87. (Added) The film of claim 86, wherein a release liner overlies the layer of pressure sensitive adhesive.

88. (Added) The film of claim 81, further comprising an opacifying layer between the core layer and the second skin layer.

89. (Added) The film of claim 88, wherein the opacifying layer comprises a white pigment, a black pigment or a mixture thereof.

90. (Added) The film of claim 81, wherein the core comprises a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 1,000 to about 10,000 ppm based on the weight of the of core layer.

91. (Added) The film of claim 81, wherein the first skin layer is comprised of an ionomer derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymer.

92. (Added) The film of claim 83, wherein the third polymeric material is an ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer.

93. (Added) A multilayered thermoplastic film, comprising:
a thermoplastic core layer having a first side and a second side, the core layer comprising:

(a) a polyolefin having a density in the range of about 0.89 to about 0.97 grams per cubic centimeter;

(b) from about 2% to about 10% by weight of a second polymeric material selected from ionomers derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymer, and

(c) from about 1% to about 40% by weight of a third polymeric material selected from ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, acid modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, anhydride modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, acrylate modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, anhydride modified polyolefins, acid

modified ethylene acrylate polymers and anhydride modified ethylene acrylate polymers;

at least one abrasion resistant first thermoplastic skin layer overlying the first side of the core layer; and

at least one second thermoplastic skin layer overlying the second side of the core layer,

wherein the composition of the core layer is different from the composition of the skin layers, and the core layer and the skin layers are characterized by the absence of PVC.

94. (Added) The film of claim 93, wherein the core comprises from about 20% to about 40% by weight of the third polymeric material.

95. (Added) The film of claim 93, further comprising a clear-topcoat layer which overlies the first thermoplastic skin layer, wherein the clear topcoat layer is characterized by the absence of PVC.

96. (Added) The film of claim 93, wherein at least one layer of a pressure sensitive adhesive overlies the second thermoplastic skin layer.

97. (Added) The film of claim 96, wherein a release liner overlies the layer of pressure sensitive adhesive.

98. (Added) The film of claim 93, further comprising an opacifying layer between the core layer and the second skin layer.

99. (Added) The film of claim 98, wherein the opacifying layer comprises a white pigment, a black pigment or a mixture thereof.

100. (Added) The film of claim 93, wherein the core comprises a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 1,000 to about 10,000 ppm based on the weight of the core layer.

101. (Added) The film of claim 93, wherein the first skin layer is comprised of an ionomer derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymer.

102. (Added) The film of claim 93, wherein the third polymeric material is an ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer.

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103. (Added) A multilayered thermoplastic film, comprising:
a thermoplastic core layer having a first side and a second side, the core layer comprising:

(a) a polyolefin having a density in the range of about 0.89 to about 0.97 grams per cubic centimeter;

(b) from about 3% to about 10% by weight of a second polymeric material selected from ionomers derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/methacrylic acid copolymer,

(c) from about 1% to about 40% by weight of a third polymeric material selected from ionomers derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymer,

(d) a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 1,000 to about 10,000 ppm based on the weight of the of core layer;

an abrasion and scuff resistant clear first thermoplastic skin layer overlying the first side of the core layer, the first skin layer comprising a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 2,000 to about 20,000 ppm based on the weight of the first skin layer,

a clear second thermoplastic skin layer overlying the second side of the core layer; the second skin layer comprising a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 1,000 to about 15,000 ppm based on the weight of the second skin layer;

wherein the composition of the core layer is different from the composition of the skin layers, and the core layer and the skin layers are characterized by the absence of PVC.

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104. (Added) The film of claim 103, wherein a clear topcoat layer overlies the first thermoplastic skin layer, the clear topcoat layer being characterized by the absence of PVC.

105. (Added) The film of claim 103, wherein a layer of a pressure sensitive adhesive overlies the second thermoplastic skin layer.

106. (Added) The film of claim 105, wherein a release liner overlies the layer of pressure sensitive adhesive.

107. (Added) The film of claim 103, wherein the core layer and the skin layers comprise a coextrudate.

108. (Added) The film of claim 103, wherein the first skin layer is comprised of an ionomer derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/methacrylic acid copolymer.

109. (Added) The film of claim 103, further comprising an opacifying layer between the core layer and the second skin layer.

110. (Added) The film of claim 109, wherein the opacifying layer comprises a white pigment, a black pigment or a mixture thereof.

111. (Added) A sign cutting method, comprising:

(A) providing a pressure sensitive adhesive composite, the composite comprising a multilayered thermoplastic film, a layer of a pressure sensitive adhesive and a release liner;

the multilayered thermoplastic film comprising:

- (1) a thermoplastic core layer having a first side and a second side,
- (2) an abrasion and scuff resistant clear first thermoplastic skin layer overlying the first side of the core layer,
- (3) a clear second thermoplastic skin layer overlying the second side of the core layer, and
- (4) a pressure sensitive adhesive layer being positioned between the second thermoplastic skin layer and a release liner, the adhesive layer being preferentially adherent to the second thermoplastic skin layer;

the thermoplastic core layer comprising:

- (a) a polyolefin having a density in the range of about 0.89 to about 0.97 grams per cubic centimeter;
- (b) from about 2% to about 25% by weight of a second polymeric material selected from ionomers derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymer;
- (c) from about 1% to about 45% by weight of a third polymeric material selected from ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, acid modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, anhydride modified ethylene/vinyl

acetate copolymers, acrylate modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, anhydride modified polyolefins, acid modified ethylene acrylate polymers and anhydride modified ethylene acrylate polymers;

(d) a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 1,000 to about 10,000 ppm based on the weight of the core layer; wherein the first thermoplastic skin layer comprising a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 2,000 to about 20,000 ppm based on the weight of the first skin layer; the second thermoplastic skin layer comprising a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 1,000 to about 15,000 ppm based on the weight of the second skin layer; the composition of the core layer and the skin layers are different, and the core layer and the skin layers are characterized by the absence of PVC; and

(B) cutting an image in the multilayered thermoplastic film; and transferring the image to a substrate.

112. (Added) A sign cutting method, comprising:

(A) providing a pressure sensitive adhesive composite, the composite comprising a multilayered thermoplastic film, a layer of a pressure sensitive adhesive, and a release liner;

the multilayered thermoplastic film comprising:

- (1) a thermoplastic core layer having a first side and a second side,
- (2) an abrasion and scuff resistant clear first thermoplastic skin layer overlying the first side of the core layer,
- (3) a clear second thermoplastic skin layer overlying the second side of the core layer,
- (4) the pressure sensitive adhesive layer being positioned between the second thermoplastic skin layer, and
- (5) the release liner, the adhesive layer being preferentially adherent to the second thermoplastic skin layer;

the thermoplastic core layer comprising:

- (a) a polyolefin having a density in the range of about 0.89 to about 0.97 grams per cubic centimeter;

(b) from about 2% to 25% by weight of a second polymeric material selected from ionomers derived from sodium, lithium or zinc and an ethylene/unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymer,

(c) from about 1% to about 45% by weight of a third polymeric material selected from ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, acid modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer, anhydride modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, acrylate modified ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, anhydride modified polyolefins, acid modified ethylene acrylate polymers and anhydride modified ethylene acrylate polymers;

(d) a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 1,000 to about 10,000 ppm based on the weight of the core layer;

wherein the first thermoplastic skin layer comprising a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 2,000 to about 20,000 ppm based on the weight of the first skin layer;

the second thermoplastic skin layer comprising a light stabilizer at a concentration of about 1,000 to about 15,000 ppm based on the weight of the second skin layer;

the composition of the core layer is different from the composition of the skin layers, and the core layer and the skin layers are characterized by the absence of PVC;

(B) cutting the multilayered thermoplastic film in the form of an image to provide needed portions of the multilayered film and unneeded portions of the multilayered film;

(C) removing the unneeded portions of the multilayered film from the composite;

(D) placing a pressure sensitive adhesive mask over the composite in contact with the needed portions with sufficient pressure to adhere the needed portions to the mask, the mask being in contact with the first thermoplastic skin layer of the needed portions;

(E) separating the mask and the needed portions from the composite, the separated needed portions having the pressure sensitive adhesive adhered to the second thermoplastic skin layer of the needed portions;

(F) placing the mask and the needed portions against the substrate to which the image is to be adhered, the pressure sensitive adhesive adhered to the second thermoplastic skin layer of the needed portions being in contact with the substrate; and

(G) removing the mask from the needed portions leaving the needed portions adhered to the substrate.

113. (Added) The multilayer film of claim 81 wherein the multilayer film is unoriented.

114. (Added) The multilayer film of claim 103 wherein the multilayer film is unoriented.